

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1093

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STADIS //////////////////////////////////////

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH, ARA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, MILL, BR

SUBJECT: VISITS TO BRAZIL OF SENIOR US MILITARY OFFICIALS

REF: STATE 243066; BRASILIA 8494

1. THE BRASILIA TELEGRAM WAS SENT WHILE I WAS ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO MINAS GERAIS AND AT A TIME WHEN THERE WAS NO WAY TO COMMUNICATE SECURELY WITH ME.
2. I DO NOT THINK GENERAL CUSHMAN'S VISIT TO BRAZIL IS A GOOD IDEA. MY PRINCIPAL REASON IS THAT, IF CURRENT POSSIBILITIES AND PROPOSALS ARE ALL REALIZED, WE COULD HAVE, BETWEEN MAY AND SEPTEMBER 1974, OFFICIAL VISITS FROM THREE OF THE FIVE JOINT CHIEFS: CUSHMAN; GEN. BROWN, THE AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF WHOM THE BRAZILIAN AFC/S WANTS TO INVITE FOR MAY ALSO; AND GENERAL ABRAMS (WHOSE VISIT IS STILL A VERY NEBULOUS POSSIBILITY AND WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY KIND OF INVITATION FROM THE GOB). IN ADDITION TO THESE POSSIBLE VISITS, GENERAL ROSSON, CINCSO, PLANS TO VISIT IN 1974.
3. ALTHOUGH I BELIEVE IN THE GENERAL UTILITY OF HIGH-LEVEL MILITARY VISITS, I CONSIDER THAT THE FOREGOING PROSPECTIVE LINE-UP IS REALLY OVERDOING THINGS. NOT ONLY ARE

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WE CHEAPENING THE CURRENCY OF SUCH VISITS, BUT WE ALSO

ARE GIVING A VERY HEAVY MILITARY CAST TO OUR ENTIRE
REWATIONSHIP.

4. OF THE POSSIBLE VISITORS (CUSHMAN, BROWN, ABRAMS AND
ROSSON), THE FIRST IS FOR ME THE LEAST WARRANTED IN SUB-
STANTIVE TERMS (ALTHOUGH IN PERSONAL TERMS HE IS, OF
THE FOUR, THE ONE I KNOW SECOND BEST--GENERAL BROWN WAS
A NWC CLASSMATE). THE BRAZILIAN MARINES ARE NOT ALL
THAT IMPORTANT IN THE MILITARY SCHEME OF THINGS HERE.
MOREOVER, CUSHMAN'S DEPUTY VISITED BRAZIL ONLY A COUPLE
OF MONTHS AGO. I RECOGNIZE THAT CUSHMAN HAS BEEN INVITED
TO VISIT, BUT CERTAINLY INVITATIONS HAVE BEEN REGRETTE
POLITELY BEFORE, AND I WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO RE-
SCHEDULING A CUSHMAN VISIT IN 1975.

5. A PROPERLY BALANCED SCHEDULE OF VISITORS FOR 1974
WOULD BE: BROWN, ABRAMS AND ROSSON. AS FOR TIMING,
THEY WOULD BEST BE SLOTTED FOR THE SECOND HALF OF THE
YEAR, SOMETHING LIKE JUNE/JULY, SEPTEMBER AND DECEMBER WITH,
PREFERABLY BUT NOT NECESSARILY, THE TWO CHIEFS AT THE
EXTREMES AND ROSSON IN THE CENTER. THE NEW MILITARY TEAM
OF THE GEISEL ADMINISTRATION DOES NOT TAKE OVER UNTIL
MID-MARCH AND, IF ONLY TO MAXIMIZE THE USEFULNESS OF THE
VISITS, WE SHOULD GIVE THE TEAM A MODEST AMOUNT
OF TIME TO GETS ITS COLLECTIVE FEET ON THE GROUND.
MAY SEEMS TO ME TO BE RUSHING THINGS.

6. THE FOREGOING EXPRESSES MY DRUTHERS. I DON'T WANT
TO CREATE PROBLEMS OR EMBARRASSMENT FOR YOU OR THE BUREAU
(PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF BRASILIA 8494), AND I WANT YOU
TO KNOW I CAN, IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, LIVE WITH THE FULL
SLATE, IF IT IS NECESSARY BECAUSE OF CONSIDERATIONS IN
WASHINGTON LIKE, FOR EXAMPLE, TENURE OF THE CHIEFS. ABSENT
SUCH FACTORS, HOWEVER, I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR TRYING
TO SHAPE THE SCHEDULE ALONG THE LINES I HAVE OUTLINED.
CRIMMINS

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